



Lomita Man Is Held For Many Grass Fires

"I just loved to start fires and put them out!"

Those quotations were attributed to County Fireman Richard Henry Ross, 24, of 2605 Oak st., Lomita, when he was taken into custody on a charge of suspicion of arson.

Detective Sergeant Ostraff, in charge of the sheriff's arson detail, is reported to have said that Ross had confessed setting nine grass fires in the Rolling Hills area this year.

Ostraff said Ross had declared he "hated" the Falos Verdes Estate operators, that he started fires to retard sales, that he wanted to build up the reputation of the fire fighting equipment and to show off his own ability.

Investigators intimated that Ross had "showed up" at too many fires when he was off duty, leading to suspicion that he had set them.

New Chemical May Revive Old Stripper Wells

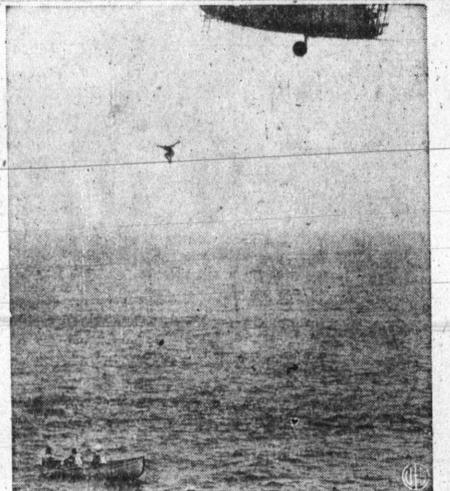
New hope for dwindling stripper wells of the Torrance oil field is held in tests of a new chemical which is being tried on the Campbell-Cowan on 236th st., just east of Narbonne ave.

J. C. Shell, vice president of Royal Petroleum Corp. and associated with a dozen other companies, said that the chemical was developed by E. B. Hall, of the Union Pacific Co., and in 23 tests no failure has been encountered.

The chemical dissolves mud in silted up holes and restores production. In some cases, wells which have dwindled to five barrels a day are increased to 50 barrels production, it was said.

BARLEY CROP

The barley crop last year was estimated to be about 263,350,000 bushels, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica 1947. Book of the Year. This was 12 percent below the ten-year average of 289,598,000 bushels for 1935-44.



FLYING DIVING BOARD—Something new is added to water sports as Joe Hackney, 48-year-old diver, makes the first dive from a dirigible on record. The camera caught the daredevil in a half-gaynor in his 100-foot plunge into the Atlantic off Atlantic City. Two lifeguards wait below to pick him up.

Two New School Buses Bought For Torrance

Torrance City Board of Education Tuesday night placed orders for two 60-passenger school buses to be acquired on a lease-lease method which results in ownership at the end of five years.

A White with Gillig conventional school bus body was ordered from Sawyer Motor Co. at a price of \$9,742.50. A Crown with a transit type school bus body was ordered from Crown Body and Coach Corp. for \$9,759.50.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools E. W. Ingram had requested that Crowns be purchased exclusively because of the transit type body with shorter wheelbase, but Geo. P. Thatcher, member of the board, prevailed upon his colleagues to buy one of each.

The district has a 45-passenger Chevrolet acquired from the Perry district.

FINSE ENLISTS

Howard G. Fiske, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Waldo E. Kuhn of 1763 25th st., Lomita, enlisted in the Regular Army at Fort MacArthur Thursday. Young Fiske, a recent graduate of Narbonne High School, has signed up for three years' service with the Medical Corps.

Crashes Involve Two Lomitans; Harbor City Man

Two Lomitans and one Harbor City man were involved this week end in three separate harbor area traffic accidents.

They are: Charles S. Martin, 64, of 1347 W. 252nd st., Harbor City; Gordon V. Richardson, 19, of 24320 Lucille ave.; and Mrs. Alberta Butler, 48, of 25048 Cypress ave.

Martha suffered injuries to his left arm when a tire on the car he was driving blew out and swerved the car into an ornamental light standard on Gaffey st., near the intersection of Mira Flores st., San Pedro.

Richardson was listed by police as the driver of a car which struck Mitchell Zuleyvic, 77, of San Pedro, Saturday night at the intersection of Pacific ave. and 12th st. Zuleyvic, after being treated at the emergency hospital for a compound fracture of his upper left arm, shock and possible internal injuries, was removed to the San Pedro hospital.

A collision between a panel truck, driven by Mrs. Butler, and an automobile on Figueroa st. near Young st., Wilmington, sent Joseph Vance, 29, Wilmington, driver of the car, to the hospital with a mangled left arm.

CAFETERIAS FOR TWO SCHOOLS OF TORRANCE SYSTEM

Torrance City schools will operate cafeterias at Torrance elementary school and Perry school, it was decided Tuesday night, but the Perry cafeteria may be eliminated if it is not able to feed a sufficient number of pupils, the Board of Education decided Tuesday night.

Some \$1500 worth of equipment was ordered for Torrance elementary and \$500 for Perry to bring them up to standard.

Walteria has not had a cafeteria in recent years, and would require a \$2,000 expenditure to install the service.

OBITUARY \$5,000 Saving Realized On Furniture Costs

AGNES FLORENCE

Services for Agnes Florence, of 1424 Hickory ave., who died at Seaside hospital in Long Beach July 13, were conducted from Stone & Myers chapel at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, Rev. C. M. Northrup officiating. A resident of California for the past five years, Mrs. Florence was born in Chicago Jan. 10, 1882. She is survived by a son, Paul Florence, of Torrance, and two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Rumig of Chicago, and Mrs. Muriel D. Yost, of Lake Forest, Ill. Private cremation was at Pacific Crest crematory.

CLOVER ROSELLA STACKHOUSE

The remains of Clover Rosella Stackhouse, of 2065 1/2 203rd st., who died at Harbor General hospital Sunday, will be sent to Lewellen, Nebr., for interment. Born in Huntley, Nebr., June 2, 1885, Mrs. Stackhouse had lived in California for the past 13 years. She is survived by her husband, Earl C. Stackhouse; four sons, Walter C. and Dale, both of Torrance; Perry C. of Tuscola, Ill.; and Gerald of Anaheim, Cal.; a sister, Mable Wertz of Huntley, Nebr., and two brothers, Ferd Selek of Huntley, and George Selek of Oakkosh, Nebr.

The average American uses about six pounds of salt a year to season food. Salt is found in 19 states and produced in commercial quantities in 13, according to the United States Bureau of Mines.

Emmett W. Ingram, assistant superintendent of Torrance City schools, saved taxpayers of Torrance nearly \$5,000 on one furniture purchase operation, it was revealed this week when he bought all the school teacher and secretarial desks, chairs and files needed for the five elementary schools of Torrance for \$1865. On the open market they would have cost \$7350.

Ingram purchased 68 double-pedestal desks for teachers for \$29 each, while on the market they would have cost \$114 each or more. He bought 100 chairs at \$3.00 each, although on market they sell for \$9.00 each; five secretary desks at \$24 each, which sell ordinarily for \$125 each; five 5-drawer files at \$20 each, which sell for \$70, and other equipment. Purchase of the double-pedestal desks saved buying of files for teachers, and this alone represented a saving of \$1800.

SHUFFLE BOARD

The game of shuffle board, known in England as early as the 15th century, was a favorite among the aristocracy, who called it "shove-groat," "shill-groat" or "shovel penny," according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

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Harbor Hills Man Pleads Guilty To Battery Count

Carl L. Lichfield, of 425 Harbor Hills, pleaded guilty Thursday to a battery count in connection with an alleged argument at a Wilmington service station.

An assault count brought against Lichfield by William E. Eaton, Wilmington, was reduced to battery.

Lichfield, who is charged with striking Eaton in an altercation July 6th, was committed pending a probation report.

SPAAU Swim Meet Starts Saturday In S.P.

For the first time in many years, the harbor district has been awarded a major swimming and diving championship meet, according to word received today from the Los Angeles City Recreation and Park Department.

The event is the S. P. A. U. Senior Swimming and Diving Championships, which will be held Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon at the Gaffey St. pool in San Pedro.

Southern California's greatest aquatic stars will compete for medal honors in the two-day meet. Among the outstanding champions entered are Brenda Helsen, beauteous national 100-meter champion; Marjorie Gestring, former Olympic Games diving queen; Sammy Lee, national high platform king; Bob Anderson, NCAA sprint champion; Anita Lhoest, lovely LACC breast stroke ace; and many other brilliant performers.

Entries for the meet close on Wednesday at 5 p. m., according to Fred Beitz, SPAAU chairman. Entries will be accepted at 6133 Tipton Way in Los Angeles.

Saturday's events start at 7:30 p. m., while Sunday's program gets under way at 2 p. m. Admission is \$1.20 for adults and 60 cents for children.

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